What is claimed is:

1. A method of automatically setting call controls corresponding to predetermined profiles of a user in an IP telephony system, said user being associated with a station including a computing device and a fixed telephone outlet, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting whether a short range, mobile transmitter corresponding to said user is within a predetermined distance of said station;

when said transmitter is within said predetermined distance, then adopting a near-station profile for said user, wherein said near-station profile directs calls within said IP telephony system to said fixed telephone outlet; and

when said transmitter is not within said predetermined distance, then adopting an away profile for said user, wherein said away profile directs at least some calls within said IP telephony system to said user via a wireless communication system.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein said away profile directs at least some calls within said IP telephony system to a voice mail processor.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein said away profile directs said calls to a personal cellular transceiver operating within said wireless communication system.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein said detecting step comprises the steps of:

said user carrying said short range, mobile transmitter as a mobile device;

said transmitter periodically broadcasting a first wireless signal;

a receiver coupled to said computing device monitoring for said first wireless signal; and

- 12 -

said computing device registering whether said first wireless signal is currently received.

5. The method of claim 4 wherein said transmitter and said receiver are each comprised of a respective Bluetooth transceiver and wherein said computing device recognizes within said first wireless signal an address corresponding to said mobile device.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein said mobile device comprises a personal cellular transceiver operating within said wireless communication system.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
said user configuring selected elements of said near-station profile and said away profile via a portal into said IP telephony system.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein said selected elements are selected from a group comprising call routing, caller prioritization, and voice mail settings.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said station is comprised of said user's office and wherein said predetermined distance substantially coincides with said office.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein said station is comprised of a workplace used by said user and wherein said predetermined distance substantially coincides with said workplace.

11. The method of claim 1 wherein said station is comprised of said user's residence and wherein said predetermined distance substantially coincides with said residence.

12. A method of automatically setting call controls corresponding to predetermined profiles of a user in an IP telephony system, said user being associated with a station including a computing device and a fixed telephone outlet, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting whether a first short range, mobile transmitter corresponding to said user is within a predetermined distance of said station;

detecting whether a second short range, mobile transmitter corresponding to said user is within a predetermined distance of said station;

when only said first transmitter is within said predetermined distance, then adopting a first near-station profile for said user, wherein said first near-station profile directs calls within said IP telephony system to said fixed telephone outlet;

when only said second transmitter is within said predetermined distance, then adopting a second near-station profile for said user, wherein said second near-station profile directs at least some calls within said IP telephony system to said user via a wireless communication system; and

when neither of said transmitters are within said predetermined distance, then adopting an away profile for said user, wherein said away profile directs at least some calls within said IP telephony system to said user via a wireless communication system.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein said first transmitter is carried by and identifies a location of said user, wherein said second transmitter is integrated with a mobile computing device, and wherein said second near-station profile directs at least some calls within said IP telephony system to a voice mail processor which includes said mobile computing device.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein said first transmitter is integrated with a personal cellular transceiver operating within said wireless communication system.

15. The method of claim 12 wherein said first and second transmitters are each comprised of a respective Bluetooth transceiver and wherein said computing device comprises at least a Bluetooth receiver for detecting Bluetooth signals from said first and second transmitters.

16. Apparatus for providing telephony service to a user, comprising:

a primary user station including a fixed computing device and a fixed telephone outlet, said primary station having an associated IP address;

a local area network (LAN) coupled to said fixed computing device and said fixed telephone outlet;

an IP telephony application server coupled to said LAN for implementing a near-station profile and an away profile of said user;

a network gateway coupled to said LAN for providing a gateway to a wireless communication system; and

a short-range, mobile transmitter carried by said user, wherein said fixed computing device includes a receiver for exchanging first wireless signals with said short-range, mobile transmitter when said short-range, mobile transmitter is within a predetermined distance of said primary station;

wherein said fixed computing device informs said IP telephony application server when said short-range, mobile transmitter is within said predetermined distance of said primary station; and

wherein said IP telephony application server adopts said near-station profile or said away profile in response to whether said short-range, mobile transmitter is within said predetermined distance of said primary station.

17. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said near-station profile directs calls for said user to said fixed telephone outlet, and wherein said away profile directs at least some calls to said user via said wireless communication system.

18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein said away profile directs at least some calls for said user to a voice mail processor.

19. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein said away profile directs said calls to a personal cellular transceiver operating within said wireless communication system.

20. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said fixed computing device and said fixed telephone outlet are integrated in a single access device addressable by said IP address.

21. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said wireless communication system is comprised of a cellular system including a mobile telephone switching office coupled to said network gateway.

22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said short-range, mobile transmitter is integrated with a personal cellular transceiver operating within said cellular system.

23. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein said short-range, mobile transmitter is integrated into a badge carried by said user.

24. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein said short-range, mobile transmitter and said receiver in said computing device are comprised of Bluetooth transceivers.

25. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising a second short-range, mobile transmitter integrated with a mobile computing device of said user for exchanging second wireless signals with said receiver in said fixed computing device, and wherein said IP telephony application server implements a second near-station

profile when said second short-range, mobile transmitter is within said predetermined distance of said primary station but said short-range, mobile transmitter carried by said user is not within said predetermined distance of said primary station, wherein said second near-station profile includes using said mobile computing device as a voice

5   mail processor.

26. A method of operating an IP telephony application server as part of a telephony system providing service to a user via a respective fixed station and a respective mobile transceiver, wherein said fixed station includes a fixed computing

10   device and a fixed telephone outlet, said method comprising the steps of:

configuring a near-station profile for said user;

configuring an away profile for said user;

receiving a first automatically-generated signal from said fixed computing device indicating that said user is within a predetermined distance of said fixed station;

15   adopting said near-station profile in response to said automatically-generated signal so that calls for said user are directed to said fixed telephone outlet; and

adopting said away profile if said first automatically-generated signal is not received for a predetermined timeout period so that at least some calls for said user are

20   directed to said mobile transceiver.

27. The method of claim 26 further comprising the steps of:

receiving a second automatically-generated signal from said fixed computing device indicating that said user is not within said predetermined distance of

25   said fixed station; and

adopting said away profile in response to said second automatically-generated signal so that at least some calls for said user are directed to said mobile transceiver.

28. The method of claim 26 further comprising the steps of:

configuring a second near-station profile for said user, said second near-station profile being associated with a mobile computing device of said user;

receiving a third automatically-generated signal from said fixed computing device indicating that said user is not within said predetermined distance of said fixed station and that said mobile computing device is within said predetermined distance of said fixed station; and

adopting said second near-station profile in response to said third automatically-generated signal so that at least some calls for said user are directed to said mobile computing device for providing a voice mail service.